DA CAPO BOOKS:

A Great Source For Military Readers

by Jon Clemens, Managing Editor

For the military reader, Da Capo Books can be an indispensable source. Along with books on many other subjects, this New York-based publishing house specializes in reprinting military classics that have long been out of print or are otherwise unavailable.

Reviewing the Da Capo releases poses a problem for publications like this one. Normally, our book reviews focus on the new or at least the very recent. Da Capo's reprints have in most cases been reviewed many years ago, and the fact that they are reprinted at all is an assurance that the books have long withstood changing styles and hold up well for modern readers. Da Capo's reprint editions are full-sized quality paperbacks that are reasonably priced.

Among the many military books that might be of interest to our readers, I'd include such classics as Heinz Guderian's Panzer Leader, Martin Blumenson's two-volume The Patton Papers, J.F.C. Fuller's Armament and History, John S.D. Eisenhower's The Bitter Woods, Read and Fisher's The Fall of Berlin, Kenneth Macksey's Rommel - Battles and Campaigns, J.F.C. Fuller's The Second World War, COL Trevor N. Dupuy's The Evolution of Weapons and Warfare, Moshe Dayan's Diary of the Sinai Campaign, Fuller's The Conduct of War, and many, many others. This does not begin to scratch the surface of a very rich catalog.

Military biographies include the work of Lieutenant Colonel Theodore Ayrault Dodge, who lost a leg fighting for the Union at Gettysburg and later produced biographies of Hannibal, Alexander, Caesar, and Napoleon (a four-volume work). The fall list includes release of Dodge's biography of Gustavus Adolphus, the Swedish warriorking who pioneered many military innovations during the Thirty Years War of the early 1600s. Dodge's history of the Civil War is also available, along with more than 50 other titles dealing with aspects of that struggle.

The works of B.H. Liddell-Hart are well represented, including his Lawrence of Arabia, The Rommel Papers, Great Captains Unveiled, and Scipio Africanus. J.F.C. Fuller, his equally influential contemporary, wrote a classic, three-volume Military History of the Western World, each about 600 pages and available for a nominal \$16 each. Fuller's biography of Caesar is on the Da Capo list, along with his Generalship of Alexander the Great.

A catalog is available from Da Capo/Plenum/Insight, at 233 Spring Street, New York, N.Y. 10013-1578. Their catalog can also be seen on the World Wide Web at http://www.plenum.com. The e-mail address is info@plenum.com.